

## THE HIGHER LIFE

Selected Gems of Thought from Pious and Holy Men of All Ages.

### Christ's Providence.

Christ's providence covers everything, all the operations of nature, all accidents as we call them, all interference by man. The web looks tangled to us and its figures seem to appear by the merest chance. But through the ages there does run "one incessant purpose," as Tennyson calls it, and everything, the least as well as the greatest, has its place.—Rev. M. E. Harlan, Reformed.

### Life At Its Best.

Christ came to enable all men to live their lives at their very best. The receiving of Him as the master of one's life insures the adoption of the purest motives and the highest standards of conduct. Christ is the true light and life of men. His teachings illumine and unravel all the problems of our human life. In Him are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge hidden.—Rev. Edw. Niles, Reformed.

### Chasing Social Ills.

Yonder is a field, full of mingled wheat and tares. The reformer says, Run a sifter over the field, and out everything bad. But that universal sifting means nothing. The sifter has left all the roots of the tares in the ground, and cutting the wheat down to day they spring up tomorrow. A thousand social revolutions will not cure the social ills of this world, until the tares of selfishness and passion and sin are uprooted.—Rev. M. E. Harlan, Reformed.

### Rewards and Punishments.

Consider the severity of Jesus as to rewards and punishments. He looks upon goodness as a root that will develop into the vine and clusters of happiness and good fortune. He beheld sin as seeds, not the reward inevitable destruction. Forgetting that revealing day, and the great Assize, with the utmost of severity in truth speaking. He foretold the harvest of retribution that should be reaped from the seeds of sin.—Rev. F. Shannon, Methodist.

### No Reason To Fear.

Think a moment: Your life is in God's keeping. Therefore, you need have no fear. Face the world boldly, and do what you have to do with courage. You shall not fail. Your life is in God's keeping; that means that you are responsible to Him for it. Live worthy of the trust He has reposed in you, putting away everything mean and low, and striving with all your heart to be a true child of God. Your life is in His keeping; then do not worry over what may happen here or hereafter.—Rev. M. Luke, Unitarian.

### Desert of Man.

Nothing is so perilous as position. The clerk flatters his employer, that he may secure promotion. The follower flatters the man of political position, that he may use his superior talents to the advantage of his country. The man who is surrounded by flattery men who sit on thrones of influence, and think themselves deities. When death punctuates the life, the swollen bubble, the iridescent globe shatters, and a little speck of muddy water is left on the page of history. But Jesus was the one faithful friend our earth has ever known.—Rev. Chas. Leake, Methodist-Episcopal.

### Conferring to God's Laws.

To Christ came Nicodemus by night, and Jesus peered him of his false measurements with remorseless severity, and yet with the utmost of encouragement and hopes. "You are in God's world; in God's world the path of peace is the path of surrender to God's will. Surrender to God's will means willingness to do God's work in God's way; to do God's work in God's way is to do God's will. You must be born again, so that you want to do God's work in God's way. Then the house of character will be built, not on wood and hay and stubble of selfishness, but upon the solid rock of God's will. Those plain words hurt Nicodemus; every nerve quivered to the center. They stung his pride. They compelled a reevaluation of all his signs.—Rev. M. E. Harlan, Reformed.

### The Limit of Life.

The limit of our earthly life is under God's will. The Mohammedans believe that God has fixed the hour when every man is to die and that nothing can either hasten or postpone it. A Turk will throw himself into the thick of a battle with a fury and recklessness found in no other race, because he says, if his time to die has come he will die anyway, and if it has not come, no one can kill him.

Some among us hold the exact opposite of this opinion and think that natural law and the will of man are the only factors entering into the problem of the time of one's death, and that God has nothing to do with it. The truth lies between the two extremes of fatalism and atheism. We are under natural law and when death comes to us it will come in the form of some process of the material world of which we are a part. None the less, God will be there, overruling the calamity and utilizing it for the purposes of His love.—Rev. M. E. Harlan, Reformed.

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AT ALL DRUG STORES

### EDUCATION IN THE ARMY.

Some Special Advantages That Go With the Military Career.

Education is a prominent feature of army life. Men who have not had the advantage of extensive schooling will find in the army facilities for acquiring a good education. At all posts there are schools for the instruction of enlisted men in grammar, arithmetic, and other studies involved in a common school education. These schools are for the benefit of enlisted men who have not had educational advantages, but attendance is optional. There is likewise at every post, a school for the instruction of non-commissioned officers.

In addition there are several technical schools. At Fort Riley, Kansas, there is the mounted service school, which includes the training school for non-commissioned officers, the training school for farmers and horsemen, and that for bakers and cooks. At Rock Island, Illinois, there is the training school for and officers of Fort Monroe, Virginia, there is the training school for master gunners and electrician sergeants, where the men with intelligence and a fair education may become skilled electrical engineers.

At various places in the United States and in the outlying possessions there are schools for instruction of enlisted men for duty in the Hospital Corps. This course teaches how to care for the sick—to dress wounds, compound medicines, and finally to become a skilled nurse or pharmacist. At Fort Wood, on Bedlow's Island, in New York Harbor, is the school for the Signal Corps, where enlisted men become expert telegraphers and switchboard operators, and learn to construct and operate all sorts of electrical and other lines for the transmission of information.

These schools are all free, and enable any intelligent soldier to acquire the education necessary to fill any position in the ranks of the army. At all posts and in many of the companies there are good libraries, where enlisted men are supplied free of cost with good books and current literature. Excellent gymnasiums with modern equipment offer special opportunities for physical development. Athletics are encouraged, contests and tournaments are arranged and prizes given for excellence. At all headquarters of regiments and of the important coast artillery districts the presence of a band enables enlisted men to engage in social recreation, such as dances and concerts, beyond the reach of many of their friends and acquaintances in civil life.—New York Times.

### Inventor and Artist.

At his boyhood it was hard to say whether the young Fulton was more the inventor or the artist, but as soon as the war ended he decided that he should become a painter, and went to Philadelphia, then the chief city of the new nation, to study his art. He made enough money by the use of his pencil and by making drawings for mechanists, to support himself, and also saved enough money to buy a small farm for his widowed mother and younger brothers and sisters.

Benjamin West, the great painter, had lived near Lancaster, and had heard much of Fulton's boyhood inventions, and he now hunted him out in Philadelphia, and helped him in his new line of work. The young artist met Benjamin Franklin and found him easier to further his plans and so, by dint of perseverance and the friends he was fortunate enough to make, he laid the foundations for his future.

When he became a man the spirit of the inventor finally overcame that of the painter. He went abroad and studied in laboratories in England and France, and then he came home and built a workshop of his own. What particularly interested him was the uses to which steam might be applied, and he studied its possibilities until he had worked out his plans for a practical steamboat. How successful those plans were all the world knows.

### Watched Fifteen Years.

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### Forest Fires.

(Youth Companion.)

Carelessness causes most of the disastrous forest fires which yearly destroy miles of valuable timber lands, and frequently whole villages and towns. A writer in the Milwaukee Sentinel recounts some interesting facts about them. One expensive conflagration was started by a match which a man threw into dry grass after lighting his pipe.

Before that fire had burned itself out it had traversed a strip of territory sixty miles long and five or six miles wide. We lost hundreds of thousands of ties by the fire, to say nothing of the timber that was burned over—all because a man was not careful where he threw a lighted match. When such fires once get started they burn themselves out; you can't stop them.

They play some queer freaks. I have seen great pine-trees standing out alone in a little clearing one hundred yards or more from anything, and suddenly the fire would jump out and a few minutes later nothing would be left of the trees but the trunk and scorched and burned limbs. I remember one case of the kind where a handsome big pine stood out alone. Suddenly the flames seemed to gather themselves into a big ball and burst over the top of the tree like a shell, enveloping it in fire. It burned as though it had been kindled.

In the old days the Indians were very careful of fire. When they broke camp in the morning, after going a shot distance, one of the band would go back to see that there was no spark unextinguished. If there was he would be sure to put it out. If he did not return to the waiting band soon, two or three others would go back, and if there was any fire they would help him extinguish it.

In that way forest fires were prevented. Nowadays, with white campers and picnickers going into the woods and leaving without care whether they leave sparks which may cause a blaze or not, it is hard to preserve the forests. I presume it was something of that kind which started the fires in British Columbia. The country is densely timbered, and any fire there means the loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars in standing timber, to say nothing of lives placed in danger.

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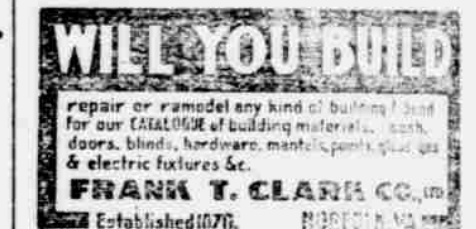
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